

Washington's Social Activities of Week Centred in Entertaining Noted Britishers

Lady Blanche Beresford Guest at Several Dinners and Other Parties.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30. The lion of the week was a British lion, or rather a lioness. Lady Blanche Beresford, who arrived at the British Embassy the end of last week, was up to the time of her departure on Wednesday the chief guest at a round of parties. At the time of her arrival Lady Geddes had gone down to Richmond on a flying trip to keep an engagement long since made. But she returned immediately and devoted herself to the entertaining of her guest. Perhaps one should say her guests, for Lord Dunsany was also a guest of the Embassy at that time.

They were both included in the dinner which Mrs. John B. Henderson was giving Saturday night for the British Ambassador and Lady Geddes. It was their first experience with one of Mrs. Henderson's famous vegetarian dinners. She has a wonderful cook who can camouflage vegetables, fruits, nuts, etc., so that no one can guess what he is really eating. It was probably also the Prince de Beau's first experience this trip, although he may have been familiar with these dinners when he was attached to the French Embassy fifteen or twenty years ago, for Mrs. Henderson and her dinners have been an institution in Washington for probably thirty years.

On Sunday the counsellor of the British Embassy and Mrs. Robert L. Craigie entertained at luncheon in honor of the Embassy guest, Sir Auckland and Lady Geddes were performed absent from that party, as they were among Mr. and Mrs. Louis Herlihy's guests at Gunston Hall, their beautiful and historic old place on the banks of the Potomac. The Herlihy's had asked a number of distinguished persons in official life down there for a luncheon in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lansing.

On Monday night Gen. H. K. Bethell, the military attaché, had a dinner for Lady Blanche at Cafe St. Marks, later taking his guests up to the Embassy for dancing, to which a number of others were invited. On Tuesday the Misses Fatten entertained her at luncheon. And in the afternoon she was the guest of "Commissioner" Mabel Boardman in her box at the New York Symphony concert, at which Kreisler was the soloist. Miss Boardman's other guests were Miss Benson of England, also a guest at the Embassy, and Princess Radziwill. Lady Geddes, who was one of Mrs. Wilson's guests at the concert, entertained at dinner at the Embassy that night for Lady Blanche, and on the following day the latter went on her way. She has been up in Canada and expects to make a considerable tour through this country before returning to England.

Mr. and Mrs. Blunt Entertained.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cecil Blunt of Paris, who have been the guests during the last week of Mrs. Julian James have also been the centre of considerable entertaining. Mrs. Blunt is the daughter of Count and Countess Becci, and she is a niece of the late Pope Leo XIII. They were the guests of honor at a dinner which Mrs. Cromwell Brooks gave Monday night, taking her party later to Major George Oakley Taylor's dance. Mrs. Brooks, who had been entertaining her mother, Mrs. Stotesbury, of Philadelphia, went up to New York on Tuesday for several days. Mrs. Julian James herself gave a large dinner for the Blunts on Tuesday. They have recently been visiting Mrs. M. B. Gerry and Miss Mabel Gerry in Newport and are to spend some time in New York before returning to Paris.

The most official party of the week was a stag party, being Secretary Coby's dinner at the Pan-American Building on Monday night, given in honor of the delegates of the five countries to the international conference on electrical communication. He rounded up for it all the Cabinet members who happened to be in town. The list was small, including only the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Houston, and the Secretary of the Interior, Judge Payne. The others seemed to be off campaigning. Another group who were the centre of some little official attention were the members of the Jugo-Slav Military Mission, which was in Washington on its way from Vladivostok to London. Not being on a mission to this country, they were not specifically the guests of American officialdom, but the Serbian Minister and Mrs. Grouhch naturally went out of their way to show them attention, giving a brilliant dinner in their honor at the location on Monday night and devoting themselves to showing them everything worth while in and near Washington. The mission was headed by Gen. Mitich, who before going to Vladivostok was in Petrograd attached to the suite of Princess Helen, daughter of King Peter. Her husband, the Grand Duke Ivan, was one of the early victims of the Bolsheviks. The mission is composed of five officers who were attached to the Kolchak Government and who are returning to their homes and families for the first time since the retreat in Serbia in 1915.

May Welcome Prince.

Washington is rather wondering whether it is to have the honor of entertaining royalty—Siamese royalty—since the Minister of Siam, Phya Phab Karayongse, went up last week to New York to meet and greet Prince Pura-Chitra, half brother of King Rama VII of Siam. He arrived last Saturday to study American railroad methods. The Prince is the Commissioner General of State Railroads in Siam and his visit is semi-official.

Those who are hoping that after election some sort of official social programme will be announced for the White House are encouraged by the fact that Mrs. Wilson gave a small tea last Monday for Mrs. Edward Douglas White, wife of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the wives of the Associate Justices of that body. There were very few guests outside of the Supreme Court circle who were received in the Red Room where Mrs. Wilson nearly always receives her small company. Moreover, on Tuesday afternoon Mrs. Wilson, as already noted, entertained a box party at the symphony concert. Two "parties" on two successive days are rather mad dissipation as compared with the White House routine for the last year.

Naturally most of the entertaining this week was at the beginning of the week, because by the end of the population, especially the official population, thinned out considerably, as men and women both went home to vote. In a good many States voting by mail is permitted, but in a good many more it is not. And even where they might vote by mail or by affidavit, those who have the time and the money in many instances prefer to go home and vote. Secretary and Mrs. Jewell and their son, Edwin T. Jewell, Jr., left Washington the end of last week, expecting to spend all this week in Chicago and then go on to Iowa, where the Secretary and his wife are registered for election day.

Mr. Coby is about the only one of

the Cabinet women who has done any entertaining this week. She gave a luncheon on Thursday for the Baroness Romano-Avezana, wife of the Italian Ambassador. The Ambassador himself sailed for Italy last week on leave of absence, from which he may or may not return. It has been generally reported that he was about to be recalled and promoted, probably to an important post under his Government at home. It was even reported, with considerable appearance of authority, that Baron Altiotti would be his successor, and everybody who could remember back fifteen years or so, to when Altiotti was an Attaché of the Embassy here, began remembering what a delightful fellow he was and how very clumsy they had been with him.

Myth Seems Evaporated.

But the Altiotti myth seems to have evaporated. No other names are mentioned. Roland Riedel, a member of the Italian Senate, is one of the latest pos-

sible candidates for the position. But both the State Department and the embassy claim that they have no definite information that Ambassador Avezana will not return, and naturally in that case no information as to who will succeed him.

From the social point of view it would be distinctly pleasant to know that the Avezana were to remain. The Ambassador is well liked and Baroness Avezana has really made all sorts of a hit. Moreover, their young daughter, Senorita Yolanda Avezana, has been announced as a debutante of the season, and, as a matter of fact, was presented during the summer at Newport. A diplomatic debutante always adds considerable interest to the group of buds in any given season, so that the probability of the Italian Embassy being transplanted without having time to bloom here was rather disappointing. As things are now, no one pretends to know when the Avezanas will leave, if they do leave, or

whether or not Miss Yolanda will be presented here this season.

The plans for Gen. Pershing's mission to South America seem to be rather in abeyance. Also the plan to let him retire any time in the immediate future. He has recently taken possession of a considerable suite of offices over in the War Department proper, leaving down up his temporary office in the old Land Office, where he was whiling up the business of the American Expeditionary Force.

Early this week a report came over from New York that he had taken a cottage at Roslyn, L. I., and was about to go up there for a couple of months and rest a bit rested before starting on his South American trip. But I haven't been able to verify that story.

Another notable Englishwoman who was here during the week was Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence of militant suffrage fame, who was entertained by the National Woman's Party at their head-

quarters on Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Lawrence seems to have passed on from being a militant suffragist to being a militant pacifist. She is urging women the country over—in fact the world over—to form a little peace league of their own and steel President Wilson's thunder by abolishing war.

To go back a bit: The recent visit of the American Ambassador to Great Britain and Mrs. John W. Davis, during which they were house guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lansing, was curiously and intentionally unofficial. During the time that they were with the Lansings, they were constantly entertained, the entertainment was entirely personal. They met their old personal friends, of whom the Lansings themselves were the closest. Mrs. Lansing invited people in to informal afternoon teas that they might meet Mrs. Davis as infrequently as possible. So far as I know there were no cards.

There are interesting whispers going around about a book which Mr. Lansing

is known to be writing. Some say that it is already on the presses and will be published almost immediately. Mr. Lansing himself, I understand, denies this, although he admits that he does expect to publish a book of reminiscences. It is, of course, one of the occasions when a man in Mr. Lansing's position would be expected to be like a gentleman. He could not very well discuss the probable contents of such a book right at the crisis of the campaign when it might possibly have no small bearing on the election. But it is one of the denials that carries no conviction. The general efforts of his friends to fit the halo of martyrdom to the Lansings and their own deft avoidance of it is rather amusing. Just now I understand that both the former Secretary and Mrs. Lansing (a former leader of the anti's) have gone home to New York State to vote.

This last week has seen the announcement of one or two rather interesting engagements, notably that of Miss Mil-

lam Hoy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hoy of Albany, to Samuel H. Kauffmann, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Kauffmann of Washington, and that of Miss Marie Sims, daughter of Representative and Mrs. Thetus Sims of Tennessee, to Edward Garrett Riddick, son of Mr. T. K. Riddick of Memphis. In neither case has any date been set for the wedding.

Miss Hoy has visited in Washington a good deal and is quite well known here. Presumably after her marriage she will live in Washington, since the Kauffmanns have been established here for two or three generations. Sam Kauffmann was best man for his brother Phil when the latter married Nancy Lane last spring. He himself graduated last June from Princeton. Miss Hoy has just recently been visiting Mrs. Victor Kauffmann and, of course, was the recipient of many attentions.

The most interesting wedding of the week is taking place this evening, that of Anita Kite, daughter of Command-

and Mrs. I. W. Kite, and Frank Pierce Harman, Jr. The ceremony is to be performed at 7:30 at the bride's home in the presence of a relatively small company. It will be followed by a reception, to which quite a few more guests have been invited. Miss Kite is having as her only attendant her future sister-in-law, Harriet Harman, while James Ryan of Washington is the best man. There has been a constant succession of parties for this pair during the last few weeks.

Another pretty wedding of the week was that of Marjory Brown and Capt. Richard Bell Buchanan, U. S. M. C., which took place last Monday. The ceremony was performed at the bride's home by the Rev. George F. Dudley of St. Stephen's. The bride's only attendant, as it turned out, was her younger sister, Miss Vivian Brown. She had expected to have Miss Helen Hayes Brown, her cousin, as a bridesmaid, but she was unable to be present on account of the New York opening of "Baby" in which she plays a leading role.

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